

HER ROMANCE

BY

MABEL R. EMLEY

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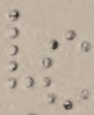
HER ROMANCE

AND

The Value of a Trained Mind

BY

MABEL R. EMLEY

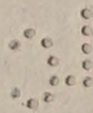


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HER ROMANCE

SHE was only a High School girl a few months before. In February she was eighteen and graduated the latter part of the following May.

The next month, June, she went to the county seat of K—, and attended Normal for four weeks and it was during this time that her romance began. Her name was Merla Warren.

Merla boarded with a family by the name of Craig, who had been old neighbors of the Warren's before they, Craigs, moved to K—.

In this family of Craig, there were four girls and two boys. The oldest boy, John, a few months older than Merla, had been trying to be more than friendly to her for years, but it was of no use. He was not her ideal and all his attentions were in vain.

The two older girls, Ethel and Edith, were both older than John. Edith was just two years older than Merla, and, because they had always attended school together, both the grades and High School, they were old chums, and, since Merla was not well acquainted with any one else in K—, she boarded with the Craigs.

Merla's brother Fred attended Normal at the same

time, but it happened that a neighbor of the Craigs, had a big family of boys and she wanted a boy to board with her. So when Fred wanted a place to stay, he was sent there.

Most of our future interest will center around this neighbor's family. Their name was Jennings.

Fred Warren went to board with them and he could not have found a nicer place to stay. They were ideal Christians and were bringing up all their sons in the same good, clean way of living, so while here, Fred received the best of help to make him a stronger and better Christian.

At the time Normal opened, Mrs. Jennings had only four sons at home. Two older than these were married and one boy of seventeen would soon return from Iowa to attend Normal, making five boys at home and the other boy, aged nineteen, was attending college in Kentucky.

Merla Warren, up to this time, had never been away from home very much and was naturally timid, so it was quite a trial to her to attend Normal at first, with so many teachers, when she felt that she was only a raw, country schoolgirl. In the home schools, she was always first in her classes so she was not such a poor scholar, but she was always underestimating her ability in everything, consequently she was usually very sad and suffered many disappointments because she wouldn't give herself any credit or have any confidence in herself.

After attending Normal a few days or a week, perhaps, she became somewhat acquainted and was a little friendly with one or two teachers; but that was another one of her troubles. She had been taught from babyhood that she was ugly, and all her life she imagined all other people still thought she was and she was very slow to make friends, mostly on this account.

She had for years tried to be a good girl and had become a Christian at sixteen and was trying hard to live right, but she still felt that she was very ugly, although no one told her that any more and she could see by the looking glass that there were others worse looking than she.

Because of her shy, reserved nature, she was never popular with the boys and never had any beaux like other girls. She wouldn't have anything to do with boys, because she had her idea that it wasn't nice to act as if you liked to be in boy's company or say anything to them unless they made the first advances. And because she was always so quiet, studious and sad looking, the boys thought she didn't want to have anything to do with them, consequently she made very few boy friends.

She longed for friends, though, and would have been very glad to be attended by a boy, sometimes to a party or such like, but she always had an idea that he had to be just so, before she would go with him. She wanted to keep her character so clean that some

day, if the right one did come along, she could be proud to bring to him a clean virginal character and a blameless life.

So we see Merla Warren, a bright student, but in looks she had a dark, though clear, skin, a great deal of dark brown hair, black eyebrows and very expressive brown eyes.

John Craig had once told his sister Edith, Merla's chum, that he thought Merla had the most beautiful eyes; this was the first awakening that Merla had, that there was something about her that was not ugly.

These eyes were the queerest yet strongest feature about her. They could express her thoughts and feelings almost as true as if she actually spoke. If it was not her desire, no one dared come too close for if they met the cold, steady gaze, from her darkened eyes, he or she would quail before them and be silenced at once. If she was happy, which was seldom, they sparkled with fun and mischief and if she was sad, they expressed her feelings clearly, so after all she was not so bad off as she thought if she only realized her power.

Her other features were all more or less plain and when a person saw her for the first time, he was not usually very well impressed with her, because of her looks, but if he only had a chance to know her, he always found her interesting and soon learned that, in spite of that mask of a face, there was in her a pure, noble, lonely heart, longing for love and friend-

ship but if it was not freely given it was not wanted, as her face seemed always to indicate.

Another peculiar thing about Merla was, that if she met a stranger, she either liked or didn't like at once. There was no changing.

A few days after Normal began, Merla and Edith went to where Fred was staying to get acquainted with Mrs. Jennings. Everything that Merla had heard about Mrs. Jennings was good, and it seemed as if every one liked her; and if she was as nice as Edith and others pictured, Merla longed to know her and to have her like her, but she was afraid Mrs. Jennings wouldn't because she thought she was so plain and ugly. She didn't think or know that a good Christian woman might not look at the outside of one, but into the heart and love what was found there.

When the girls reached Mrs. Jennings' home, Merla was introduced and she was treated so kindly that she loved Mrs. Jennings at once and felt sure that she was true and good. Merla was so happy at being treated so friendly by this lovely, auburn-haired lady, that she would have been glad to do anything for her.

After this visit Merla went to see her several times and had been invited along with the Craig girls to spend the evening about the last of June and meet her son Roscoe, who was coming home for the summer from college. This son was studying to be a minister.

When the time arrived, Merla was shy about going to meet this stranger because if he was studying to be a minister, he would be a very good young man and no doubt would take no notice of her at all; she was so plain and had no nice clothes to wear. She also feared he would think she was not very good because she thought she wasn't, although she tried to be. She did not realize that in always trying to be good one cannot be all bad.

Ethel and Edith were all excitement at the thought of meeting him. Ethel, though three or four years older than Merla, thought she might impress young Roscoe favorably, as she was very anxious for a husband. No such thought ever entered Merla's head in regard to him, because she imagined she was a mere nobody.

Well at last they reached the Jennings' home and the family were all out on the porch, as it was a lovely moonlit evening. Roscoe was presented to the girls and when he was presented to Merla, his mother explained that she was Fred's sister; the boy whom he had already met. He shook hands with all the girls and seemed pleased to meet them and showed himself to be a true gentleman all the evening.

Merla was so very glad that it was only in the moonlight that he could see her, for she thought he would not have been so kind if he could see too plainly what she looked like. She knew that she would have been painfully embarrassed, but as it was she could take part in the conversation once in awhile, without

very much embarrassment because she felt that they could not see her too plainly.

On the way home that evening, the Craig girls voiced their sentiments in ecstasies of delight; how pleased they were with Roscoe and what a dear he was and how each of them was going to "set her cap" for him.

Merla was almost as enthusiastic, only when they asked her what she thought of him, she told them she thought he was all right, but in her heart she knew that she had met her ideal, but she felt that it was not for her to attain, for she was so plain, besides poor and would not go to college as he was now doing and as she had always longed to do, but she would have to teach school if she could get a certificate, which she doubted. So she went home, feeling sad, yet painfully happy, as if something that she had wanted all her life had been placed before her, but she was not good enough to reach it and perhaps he would never think twice of her.

She went back to her studies and tried to think no more about him and she practically succeeded in shutting him out of her heart and life, because she felt he would never take any more notice of her than any chance acquaintance. She saw him only a few more times before the Normal closed, and he was always very polite.

Finally the examinations were over and she went to her country home near C— to await the results. After a wait of two weeks she received a letter in

which was her teacher's certificate with good grades, showing that she knew a great deal more than she thought she did, or at least more than she gave herself credit for.

In the fall she began her first term of school, but she hated the work; she would rather do almost anything else than teach but when spring came her parents told her she must teach again the next year; so she secured another school, then spent three months that summer visiting relatives and friends in Missouri and other places, coming back in the fall and teaching her second term. She liked teaching a little better this year, but she wanted something else.

She longed inexpressibly for a home of her own with some dear one to love her, but as yet she was, to the world, heart whole and fancy free and at the close of her second year at school teaching, she was twenty years of age.

Just before this term ended her parents moved to the eastern part of the state near E— when before this, they had been living in the south central part of the state. After her school was out, Merla went to E— and stayed until the first of June when she came back to K— to attend Normal, where she had attended two years before; because she was trying to get a first grade certificate and she was acquainted with the County Superintendent as he had been her old professor in High School.

This time on her way out to K— after changing cars at W— she saw some one on the train whom

she thought she had seen before, but for a moment she did not think who; but only for about a second and she recognized Roscoe Jennings. She had almost forgotten about him for she thought he had passed completely out of her life.

She was certainly surprised to see him. He remembered her and talked awhile, then he asked her to sit with him. She thought she would just ask how his mother was, for she still loved her more than ever, but had not seen her often, then she would go somewhere else in the car. She didn't want to be forward and not for the world would she have him think she was trying to make herself forward with him. So when he asked her to sit with him it embarrassed her greatly, but she didn't want to appear rude, and besides it made her very happy to be that near him and to see him again so she sat with him.

He then told her that he had not been home the past two years, but had gone back to college two years before and was only now on his way home. Thus they chatted until, all too soon for Merla, the train arrived at the station where Merla's sister lived and she was to stop there a day or two before going on to K—.

Roscoe took her suitcase and helped her off the train, getting off with her, carrying her suitcase and, putting it down on the walk by the depot, shook hands with her, raised his hat and went back on the train as it started on its way to his home.

Merla certainly was happy, for no one in all the

world had been that polite to her and yet she never misunderstood his actions, for she felt sure he only did it because he was naturally a polite and good young man and treated her that way because he was so noble that he would do that much for any woman.

A few days later Merla went to K— and engaged rooms with two other girls and the three girls bached and attended Normal.

The first days of that Normal were almost the happiest school days that Merla had ever known because every day for nearly a week Roscoe was at the Normal for part of the time each day as he was agent for a certain school paper. When he asked Merla to subscribe, she did and with the subscription there was a book besides the paper and, she kept that book ever after in memory of him.

Every day that he came he would find time to talk to Merla a few moments and once he sat with her through chapel and during that time he asked what her address was and said he might send her a post card. After telling him what it was he copied it in his notebook.

One Sunday morning while there Roscoe preached to the people and Merla listened to every word he said and watched him as if he were a saint. She liked to watch him when he didn't know she was looking.

One Wednesday evening she saw him at prayer-meeting and conversed with him for a few minutes. The last day of that school week on Friday after-

noon, Edith and Merla had been invited to Mrs. Jennings' as Roscoe was to leave that night for B—, a place about eighty miles west of K— where he was to begin to preach. Both girls went, but it seemed that Roscoe was a little more interested in Merla than in Edith and she was happy to think that he did notice her a little. As the girls came upon the porch when leaving, Merla, who was a great lover of flowers and of roses especially, cried out with delight at the sight of a pink rambler rose that was in full bloom by the porch. Roscoe and his mother both had come out with them and both said, "Take all you want." So Edith stepped around in front and began to pick a bunch and Roscoe came to Merla and said, "Which bunch do you want?"

This surprised her but she thought that if he would get one for her, she would be so pleased because then she would have something that his dear hands had touched; so she, though slightly confused, picked out one and he took his pocket knife and cut it off for her. He never offered to get any for Edith. They only took a very few roses, then went home after bidding Roscoe good-by. But later, Merla put her roses in her chest of treasures where she kept them a long, long time.

Well, after this there was quite a little more left of the four weeks of Normal but during this time Mrs. Jennings became ill and every chance Merla had, she would go to see her; sometimes reading to her and sometimes taking her flowers. She loved

Mrs. Jennings dearly for her own sake, but she was doubly dear to her because she was Roscoe's mother and with him away she tried to do all she could to be a daughter to Mrs. Jennings, although she never hinted at such a thing or ever expected it to be so.

She wanted Mrs. Jennings to love her and she enjoyed talking to her so much; one day when Merla came and leaned over the bed to fix something about the pillow more comfortably, Mrs. Jennings caught her hand and kissed it. O, how queer that made Merla feel! but oh, how happy! for now she felt that surely Mrs. Jennings loved her a little and Merla leaned over and kissed her reverently on the brow and felt so humble to think that Mrs. Jennings had kissed her hand when she had always felt that she was too good for her to kiss. She could have done almost anything for her now, and she did make her sickness much easier and Merla was so happy in doing any little thing she could to help her.

Mrs. Jennings got well and soon after Merla went back to E— after getting her certificate, and in the fall she went back to her old home neighborhood near C— to teach again. During this year Merla went to K— several times and she was always welcomed with a kiss now whenever she saw Mrs. Jennings.

Well after Merla had completed her third year of teaching she went back to E— to her people and the next fall she taught the home school in that county. After this term ended Ethel and Edith Craig came out the last of June to visit her. Merla

was now twenty-two years of age and a very nice looking girl if she only knew it. All these past two years she had not seen Roscoe and neither had he written to her as he suggested, or if he had she failed to receive the card.

Edith and Ethel stayed at Merla's home a week then they went home, taking Merla with them. She stayed at Craig's two nights and one day and on the morning of the second day she was going on the local about noon to C— to see her old home place and old friends and neighbors. For some reason the Craig girls were too busy to go to the train with her and as Mr. Craig had carried her suitcase to his office near the depot, when he went to work, she had nothing to carry except her kodak and a lunch box which Mrs. Craig had kindly filled for her.

Merla started out and she said she would stop a short time and see Mrs. Jennings as it was right on her way to the depot. She had heard that Roscoe had come home for a visit but in real justice to her it must be said, she really never thought of seeing him at home at ten o'clock in the morning; but when she arrived, after being greeted by Mrs. Jennings, they went into the dining-room, and when she reached there, who should she see coming toward her, but Roscoe himself! He came with hand outstretched and a very glad look of welcome on his face and said, as he clasped Merla's hand in his: "I am indeed very glad to see you again."

His hearty welcome and seeming pleasure at see-

ing her again surprised Merla very much, but it made her very happy. She spent a pleasant hour with Roscoe and his mother, showing them pictures she had taken with her kodak, telling them of her new home and showing pictures of her relatives.

Pretty soon she asked Mrs. Jennings to come out and let her take her picture as she had always wanted one. After some demurring because she was just dressed in her house dress, Mrs. Jennings finally allowed Merla to take her picture. Roscoe came out with them and Merla wanted to ask him to step up beside his mother and allow her to take them both but modesty held her back, for she feared he might think her somewhat unmaidenly, so she said nothing about it then.

After the picture was taken, they returned to the house and as Merla was preparing to go to the station, Roscoe said, "I believe I'll go along. Would you object, Merla, if I did?" Merla was not expecting that, but she replied that she would not object for indeed she knew she would enjoy it very much.

While he was getting ready, Merla was called to the telephone and it was Edith, saying that if Merla would wait a few moments she would be along to go with her to the depot. She said she began to think how bad it was that none of them should see her off so she decided to go after all. Merla told her to come on but she thought to herself: "Well, I am not going alone anyway, if Edith didn't come."

Edith soon arrived and Roscoe shook hands with her too, but he did not say he was glad to see her, as he had told Merla.

At last they all started down town, Roscoe on the outside of the walk, Merla next to him and Edith on the other side of her. He insisted on carrying both girls' umbrellas, manifesting his politeness again.

When they reached the office of Mr. Craig, Roscoe again took Merla's suitcase, saying, "You should remember that man is a very present help in time of need or trouble." Then they went to the County Superintendent's office for a few minutes' chat with him before train time. Merla took his picture as he sat in his office chair. As he was greeting Roscoe he asked, "Did you want something?" Roscoe told him that he was only going to the train with Merla to see her off.

From there the three went to the depot and learned that the train was an hour or more late so Roscoe suggested that they leave the baggage there and go to the park, which was only a short distance away. They did go and he entertained the girls nicely, but after giving them a ride on a small hand propelled, merry-go-round, Merla became somewhat dizzy and had to lean against a tree for a few minutes. Roscoe was all solicitude at once and was sorry he was the cause of it, but Merla assured him that she would be all right in a few minutes and she was.

They played with the monkeys and Roscoe helped

scare them over to one side of the cage so Merla could get the picture of them. Then for fun or pretending it was a joke, but in her heart she really wanted to badly and hoped for success, she took the picture of Roscoe as he was leaning over the fence near the cage. She took it so suddenly, for fear her courage might fail her and that he might object and move, that he didn't hardly know she took it until it was done and he said, "I am afraid my hat shaded my face."

By that Merla knew he would not have objected to her taking it but rather would have helped her get a good one if she had told him. She was sorry then she had been so hasty and would like to have taken it again, but she only had a few films left and she had promised Edith to take her picture, so she took it and had to save the rest of the films for relatives because she couldn't get films in K— or C— and she had not brought many with her.

After looking at the pigeons, birds and other things of interest, they went back to the depot and the train was almost ready to go. Edith bade Merla good-by at the steps of the car and left immediately, but Roscoe carried her suitcase on the car for her and as he bade her good-by, he said, "I am going to write you a letter this time when I get home."

Merla was so surprised at this that she merely said, "All right," thinking that he would probably do as he did about the post card, two years before. He left her then and the train pulled out.

Roscoe himself was to leave for H— that same afternoon and from H— get on the main line to go back to the very southwest corner of the state of E— where he had been preaching now for some time. Merla thought it so queer that he should give his last half day at home to her, instead of staying at home with his mother. Neither could she understand his seemingly increased interest in her, unless he had become better acquainted with the kind of a girl she was, from his mother.

The day they both left K— was Friday and Merla didn't go back to her own home near E— until the next Wednesday evening. When she arrived her mother told her there was some mail for her in her room on the dresser. She went there at once and found a letter from Roscoe.

Well, imagine Merla's feelings if you can! Here she didn't even believe he would write to her, and if he did she didn't expect a letter that soon. She was pleased and very happy about it though. It seemed now that she surely could feel that he was interested in her a little.

He asked about the pictures and hoped when she sent them she would not mistake his picture for the monkeys.

When Merla developed them she spoiled Roscoe's picture in some way so that there wasn't even enough of it to tell what it was. She certainly was terribly disappointed about that.

When she answered Roscoe's letter she had only a

picture of his mother and the monkeys to send him.

It was in July when the correspondence began and it continued through the rest of the summer and fall. In September Merla began teaching school again, but she did not dread it much this year because she had Roscoe's very friendly and helpful letters to cheer and encourage her. She felt more like trying to be good and pure and more worthy of Roscoe's pure friendship.

A short time before Christmas Roscoe asked Merla if he could come to visit her and said he had something very important to tell her.

She invited him to come and she was very happy to think that he wanted to come and that she would soon see him again and this time she would feel so much better acquainted with him after corresponding with him for the past five or six months.

Merla and her home folks made many preparations for his coming as her folks did not know him, except Fred, Merla's brother.

At last everything was ready for the guest and he was to arrive on Saturday evening. Merla met him at the train and they were both very much pleased to see each other again.

On the way home they had so much to say that the time passed all too quickly for them for they were soon home and in time for a dainty supper, which had been prepared for them by Merla's mother and sister.

After introductions were over, they warmed awhile

as it was a little chilly out of doors and they were soon ready to eat supper.

After supper was over they all repaired to the parlor to talk and get acquainted. An hour or so was spent in talk and music then the family left Merla and Roscoe alone.

They were now alone again but in a warm and comfortable room. For awhile Merla showed him pictures and they talked on various subjects.

Soon Roscoe, who was sitting in a chair near Merla, leaned toward her and said, "Do you remember I wrote you I had something to tell you? Aren't you anxious to know what it is?"

Merla replied, "I remember you told me you had, but I was waiting until you were ready to tell me."

He said, "Merla, it is this, that I love you, darling, very much and have to come to see you to find out from your own lips if you love me. I began to love you several years ago; as I became better acquainted with you and found that beneath your shy, reserved nature, you were good and true and since then I have found it to be true more and more until I knew I loved you, dearly, and wanted you for my wife. Dearest, do you love me and will you be my own, dear wife?"

Merla was too overcome to speak at first. Finally, all she could say was, "Roscoe, I didn't know you could care for me that way. I do love you and have loved you for years, but I am not worthy to become a minister's wife."

At this Roscoe gathered her in his arms and stopped any more words with kisses. He kissed her crimson lips and cheeks and her eyes and hair and called her his own darling, then told her that she was everything any minister would ask for. After much explanation and telling each other when they first began to love the other, Merla promised to become his wife, and a happier, more thankful girl could not be found. She thanked God in her heart for His goodness, in at last blessing her life with such a true, noble love as Roscoe Jennings'.

Roscoe then took a small package from his pocket, in which was a beautiful diamond ring. He said, "See, dearest, I came prepared for I hoped you would consent, but I was not sure, and if you had not, I would always have kept the ring in memory of you. I liked your letters so well, for they sounded so sweet, soothing and companionable that I had some hope that you did care for me. I thought you could not have written so interestedly as you did about my work if you had not cared for me a little."

He now placed the beautiful sparkling gem upon her finger and they both sealed the betrothal with a kiss; one which expressed the deep, pure love they had for each other.

They decided to name the wedding day the first day of May, after Merla's school was out.

Merla at last was beloved as she had always hoped to be, but she had the love of one so much better and nobler than she ever supposed was in store for her,

that she could not help but be so glad. She certainly slept sweetly and peacefully that night.

The next day, being Sunday, they all went to Sunday School and church. When the regular minister heard that Roscoe was a minister also, he invited him to speak to them that evening, which he consented to do.

Merla had invited a few young folks home to dinner with her and the girls, of course, noticed her new ring and congratulated her accordingly; saying that her eyes sparkled almost as brightly and that they had never seen her so happy before. She told them that she never had been so happy before either.

The day was spent pleasantly and a short time before church Roscoe and Merla had a few moments alone, which they used in getting ready for the evening's sermon, Merla helping.

That evening when Roscoe left Merla to go to the front to preach before her own people, she felt as if her cup of happiness was full and running over. She was so proud of him who looked so noble, true, beautiful and good and who spoke so grandly and eloquently to the audience. He made quite an impression on all for after it was over so many seemed anxious to meet him.

The next evening being Christmas Eve, they went to the Christmas exercises at the church. Merla received a most beautiful present from Roscoe. She gave him a beautiful one also, but it was quite mod-

est because she did not expect to be engaged to him when she bought it.

On Christmas day there was a family gathering of Merla's relatives, some of whom lived quite a distance away. A jolly time was spent that day, and also in getting acquainted with Roscoe, who was soon to be one of them.

The day after Christmas he departed, because he had to visit his people yet and he only intended being away a week.

Merla and Roscoe were sad to part with each other but happy in the thought that they now belonged to each other almost and it would be only a few short months when they would be together for all time.

The time did pass rapidly, under the circumstances for Merla who had to finish teaching her school, besides all her spare moments being used in preparing for her wedding and her future home to which she was looking forward with the greatest expectation and pleasure.

For Roscoe, the time did not go quite so rapidly for he had more time to think how badly he wanted Merla and how he needed her to help and cheer him. But he busied himself with his work and prepared a home for his bride, and soon the first of May came.

Roscoe had arrived at Merla's home the day before. The wedding day dawned clear and bright and a happier couple would have been hard to find, than

these two who were joined together that day. It seemed to Merla that everything was bright and beautiful and as she looked up into her husband's noble face she felt that at last she had found a beautiful haven of rest in his love and protection which she knew would be hers.

The day ended peacefully and bright, which seemed to be a good indication of what the life of these two happy young people would be.

After staying just one more day at Merla's home to get her things packed, they left for K— to be greeted, welcomed and loved by Roscoe's parents, who were anxious to see their new daughter-in-law but whom they already loved as a daughter.

The one disagreeable thing on Merla's return to K— was to see the envious looks of the Craig girls, who had not won Roscoe, but Merla, one whom they never thought of as having the least show against them, had won him. But Merla was so happy and forgiving that she did not mind that, for she knew her husband's love was for her only.

They remained here a few days, then went to E— where Roscoe's work still went on and where Merla's new home was to be.

She found the home to be everything her heart desired and before long they were happily settled and where to-day they may be found, doing good work among the people; Merla as well loved by them as her noble husband, whom she always tries to help in

every way possible. He is just as proud of her as she of him and says he don't see how he ever did without her as long as he did.

Thus we shall leave them, happily busy and truly loving one another.

THE VALUE OF A TRAINED MIND

THE value of a trained mind! The first question to be considered is: What is mind? Immediately we think that the brain is the mind, but is it? No! The brain is not really the mind; it is only a sort of a machine through which the mind acts.

This mind is not something that can be seen or felt or weighed. It is a mysterious something—a sort of a spiritual thing through which the mind acts and which has made man the master of his environment and given him the magnificent sum total of human culture and attainment.

The mind and brain, it is true, are always spoken of inter-changeably, but the reason of this is that they are so vitally related and so inseparably connected in their work. We never know one except in connection with the other and we never know any other mind but our own. You and I may look into each other's face and there be able to read some of the mind's activity, but neither can discover the real you of the other. We may work together, live together, come to love or hate each other even, yet our inmost selves forever stand apart.

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If I consider how you must think or feel or act under certain circumstances, I am really but interpreting my own thoughts, feelings and actions under similar circumstances and attributing them to you. Thus in a small way you see what a wonderful thing is mind.

But yet, if there is a mind and a brain, of what use are they to an individual without proper training? If they are not properly trained we are almost entirely powerless. A quotation from Joseph Addison will help to illustrate: "What sculpture is to a block of marble, education is to a human being." Only a few words, yet if we understand the full import of them, how much do they contain!

But what is it that must be considered in this training process? Coming down to every day affairs, one of the most vital points to be considered is the influences which surround the child, for the nerves are so very sensitive, they being the means of carrying the different stimuli to the brain, that it is very necessary that the influences be of the most uplifting and ennobling kind; first the influences at home and later at school. Studying the state textbooks in the grades and later the High School and College, perhaps, and still other higher institutions of learning are very necessary and important in the training of the mind.

The study of the books alone in the grades is very important, as this forms the foundation upon which we may place more knowledge; yet the knowl-

edge gained from such books, forms only a small part in the training of the mind, for there are many other things to be considered.

One very great thing is the manner or kind of associates the child has. This may seem a small matter when lightly considered, but it is very vital. Of course there cannot be found such an ideal place for every child, but that is not the end in view; it should be that the child is so well taught or has his will and impulses so under control, that he may be able to resist temptations then and this, so firmly fixed, that he may be safe later in life.

Day by day, as the child attends school, he should be helped in every way toward the right and his mind nourished upon things that are high and uplifting and upon deeds that are noble and inspiring and not upon sentimental things or anything else that would cause a degeneracy in the development or morals, for: "Slowly, day by day, from the cradle to the grave, we are weaving into our lives the threads of sentiment which at last become so many cables to bind us to good or evil."

Hence, the importance that the sentiments encouraged be those that will uplift, ennoble and inspire. Then after graduation from the grades, is the High School. At this time or at the end of the education in the grades, the mind is still in a very formative condition and it should be formed and made stronger by a High School education.

But as I have said before, the study of books is

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not all that constitutes education. No; for what use will we make, later in life, of the propositions of geometry, the declensions or conjugations of Latin? Not very much unless we desire to become a teacher of them. Now you will think I am contradicting my former statement, or you will say, what is the use then of a High School education? But that is not my desire.

The use of studying geometry, Latin and others, is the great good they do in making the mind stronger, better developed and, in every way, better able to deal with the problems of life, for after such an education one is better able to think, judge and decide more easily upon important matters and the daily problems may be more coolly met and worked out than before.

Then there are so many other things which must be considered along with the studying and other training process and another thing; "Learning without thought," says Confucius, "is labor lost," and when one is trying to receive an education he should be made to see the importance of it in order to secure the best results and gain the most benefit from it. And there should always be a very high ideal kept in view by every young person, or they should have a desire to reach the highest goal, for: "There is a tide in the affairs of men, which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune; Omitted, all the voyage of their life is bound in shallows and in miseries."

That is, when there is an inclination to go on higher and if there is something that will continually urge them on, they will succeed and continue to rise, but if there is not, they will settle down into an equilibrium and be content to live upon that which they had learned when their interest was fresh, or remain forever in the shallows.

But if we go on with our education, our minds will become still better trained until, as I have said before, we shall be able to do those things which, if we had not obtained such an education, we would almost have to be a parasite, depending upon the strength and knowledge of others to get along in the world.

Therefore, I say, secure as good an education along all lines possible and a good moral and spiritual training, for it is a duty, a religious duty, to develop these minds, given to us by an Almighty Power, to their utmost ability or at least all that is in our power to do, for we shall be called to account for our having improved them or not as we should, as the case may be.

Then procure as great a knowledge and as good a training as possible and become a power in the world, and make the world better for your having lived in it, because of having a trained mind, for, "Knowledge is Power."

